

Message Text

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67

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FM AMCONSUL GUADALAJARA

TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

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C O N F I D E N T I A L GUADALAJARA 1097

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, MX

SUBJECT: CARLOS RAMIREZ LADEWIG ASSASSINATED IN GUADALAJARA

REF: GUADALAJARA A-109, DECEMBER 11, 1974

1. CARLOS RAMIREZ LADEWIG, AGE 46, HEAD OF THE MEXICAN SOCIAL SECURITY INSTITUTE IN THE STATE OF JALISCO, WAS MACHINE GUNNED TO DEATH, ALONG WITH HIS DRIVER, HIS BODYGUARD AND A LOCAL POLICEMAN, ABOUT 1539 HOURS, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, NEAR THE MONUMENT OF THE NINOS HEROES IN GUADALAJARA. TWO YOUNG GUNMEN RIDDLED THE RAMIREZ CAR AND ESCAPED IN NEARBY AUTOS. RAMIREZ RECEIVED NUMEROUS BULLET WOUNDS AND DIED IMMEDIATELY.

2. LICENCIADO RAMIREZ LADEWIG, A LAWYER AND 1954 ALUMNUS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF GUADALAJARA, IS BEST KNOWN FOR THE FOUNDING OF THE FEDERACION DE ESTUDIANTES DE GUADALAJARA (F.E.G.) OF WHICH HE WAS THE FIRST PRESIDENT (1951-53). THE FEG IS THE VERY POWERFUL AND POLITICALLY INFLUENTIAL STUDENT UNION THAT CONTROLS THE STATE UNIVERSITY. PERIODIC VIOLENCE HAS ERUPTED IN THE PAST WHEN THE ZUNO FAMILY HAS ATTEMPTED TO GAIN CONTROL OF THE UNIVERSITY OF GUADALAJARA STUDENT BODY. OVER THE YEARS THERE HAS BEEN NO LOSS OF LOVE BETWEEN
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RAMIREZ LADEWIG AND THE ZUNOS.

3. RUMOR HAS IT THAT ANDRES ZUNO ARCE, THE YOUNGEST SON WHO HAS BEEN BANNED FROM GUADALAJARA AND WHO NORMALLY RESIDES IN MEXICO CITY, RETURNED TO GUADALAJARA ON SEPTEMBER 19. ANDRES ZUNO IS CONSIDERED AN ARCHENEMY OF RAMIREZ LADEWIG. THE FATHER OF THE DECEASED, FORMER GOVERNOR OF JALISCO AND QUINTANA ROO, MARGARITO RAMIREZ MIRANDA, WAS DRIVEN TO AND FROM THE FUNERAL ON SEPTEMBER 13 BY ALVARO ZUNO ARCE, BROTHER OF ANDRES. THE ZUNO FAMILY SENT THE LARGEST WREATH TO THE RAMIREZ FUNERAL. SHADES OF AL CAPONE.

4. CONCERN AS TO THE EFFECT ON PUBLIC ORDER AND RENEWED FEARS OF LOCAL CITIZENS CONCERNING ANOTHER WAR FOR CONTROL OF THE FEG AND VENGEANCE FOR RAMIREZ'S DEATH HAVE BEEN VOICED BY MANY INFLUENTIAL INDIVIDUALS AND GROUPS, RIGHT UP TO MEXICO CITY CABINET MEMBERS. MOYA PALENCIA HAS DENOUNCED THE KILLING AND HAS SENT THE SUBDIRECTOR OF NATIONAL SECURITY, MIGUEL NASSAR HARO, TO ASSIST IN THE INVESTIGATION. SO FAR NO CLUES, NO SUSPECTS, NO ARRESTS. MOYA HAS CALLED FOR THE CAPTURE OF NOT ONLY THE (PROBABLY WELL PAID) PHYSICAL ASSASSINS, BUT ALSO THE MOTIVATORS OF THE DEED.

5. IN SUM, OUTLOOK FOR FUTURE VIOLENCE IS GREAT AS ZUNOS MAY ATTEMPT TO CAPITALIZE ON DEATH OF RAMIREZ LADEWIG AND RENEW EFFORTS TO GAIN CONTROL OF THE FEG. ALSO HIGH PROBABILITY OF REVENGE KILLINGS BY RAMIREZ FOLLOWERS.

6. MY ATTEMPTS AT OFFICIAL SOCIAL AFFAIRS PAST THREE DAYS TO OBTAIN INSIDE INFORMATION REGARDING THE KILLING FROM HIGH LEVEL STATE AND CITY OFFICIALS HAVE RESULTED IN OBVIOUS DESIRE TO CHANGE THE SUBJECT. THESE USUALLY COOPERATIVE OFFICIALS WHO IN THE PAST WERE WILLING TO PROVIDE CLOSELY-HELD INFORMATION MUST HAVE STRONG REASONS TO WITHHOLD SAME. THIS TENDS TO CONFIRM OUR OPINION THAT STATE POLITICAL FIGURES WERE INVOLVED.

7. GUARDED REMARKS TO ME BY INFLUENTIAL PRIVATE SECTOR
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INDIVIDUALS INDICATE FEAR OF A BLOODBATH BETWEEN FEG AND FAR (FRENTE ESTUDIANTIL REVOLUCIONARIA) STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS. AT THIS TIME AM OF THE OPINION NO RPT NO NATIONAL POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS. ORTWEIN

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